

ONE DIMENSIONAL SOLUTE TRANSPORT IN HOMOGENEOUS POROUS DOMAIN

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Specially dedicated to my beloved family who inspires me throughout my journey in education. Thank you for everything.

Cikgu Munirah binti Sabran

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ABSTRACT

Analytical solutions are obtained for dispersion of pollutants along groundwater flow in a longitudinal direction through semi-infinite aquifers which is porous. The solute dispersion is considered temporally dependent while the seepage velocity uniform. The dependency of the solute dispersion to time will indicate that the solute dispersion will change in certain times as the groundwater's parameters change due to monsoon season and in normal season. Analytical solutions are obtained for uniform pulse type input point source. The Laplace transformation technique is employed to get the analytical solutions of the present problem. The solutions obtained predict the time and distance from the location at which an input concentration is introduced at which the pollution concentration becomes harmless.

ABSTRAK

Sifat pengangkutan bahan pencemar di dalam air bawah tanah di dalam paksi x , separuh infiniti diselesaikan dengan menggunakan penyelesaian analisis. Sifat pengangkutan bahan pencemar adalah bergantung kepada masa. Namun kelajuan air bawah tanah adalah sekata. Ini untuk menunjukkan sifat bahan pencemar adalah berlainan pada masa tertentu selaras dengan parameter air bawah tanah yang bergantung dengan musim hujan dan musim biasa. Penyelesaian analisis ini diselesaikan untuk keadaan bahan pencemar yang dilepaskan dari satu tempat secara sekata. Kaedah transformasi Laplace telah digunakan untuk mendapatkan penyelesaian analisis bagi merungkai permasalahan ini. Penyelesaian yang diperolehi dapat menjangka atau meramal masa dan tempat bahan pencemar sudah tidak berbahaya dari lokasi di mana bahan pencemar itu dilepaskan.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	DECLARATION	ii
	DEDICATION	iii
	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	iv
	ABSTRACT	v
	ABSTRAK	vi
	TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
	LIST OF FIGURES	x
	LIST OF SYMBOLS/NOTATIONS	xii
	LIST OF APPENDICES	xv
1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 Research Background	1
	1.2 Problem Statement	2
	1.3 Objectives of the Study	3
	1.4 Scope of the Study	3
	1.5 Significance of the Study	3
2	LITERATURE REVIEW	4
	2.1 Introduction	4
	2.2 Advection Diffusion Equation	4
	2.3 Fick's Law	6

2.4	Superposition of Advection Diffusion Equation	8
2.5	Brief Review on Analytical Solutions of the Advection Diffusion Equation	9
2.6	Brief Review on Numerical Solution of Advection Diffusion Equation	11
2.7	Aquifer and Groundwater	13
2.8	Seasonal Variation of Groundwater Flow	14
2.9	Darcy's Law	15
3	THE MATHEMATICAL MODEL	17
3.1	Introduction	17
3.2	Advection Dispersion Equation	17
3.3	Introducing Independent Variable X into Advection Dispersion Equation	19
3.4	Introducing Independent Variable T into Advection Dispersion Equation	21
3.5	Uniform Pulse Type Input Point Source Condition	22
3.6	Formulation of Transformation Equation	23
3.7	Incorporating Transformation Equation into Advection Dispersion Equation	27
3.8	Incorporating Transformation Equation into Initial and Boundary Conditions	31
3.9	Laplace Transformation	34
3.10	Obtaining General Solution of Ordinary Differential Equation	38
3.11	Inverse Laplace Transform	44
4	RESULTS AND DISSCUSSIONS	59
4.1	Introduction	59
4.2	Value of Parameter	59
4.3	Effect of the Retardation Factor and Unsteady Flow Parameter on the Solute Concentration Distribution	60

4.4	Effect of Increasing Function, Decreasing Function and Sinusoidal Function on the Solute Concentration Distribution	67
4.5	Effect of Increasing Function, Decreasing Function and Sinusoidal Function on the Solute Concentration Distribution at Particular Position	69
5	CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	73
5.1	Summary of Research	73
5.2	Conclusions	74
5.3	Recommendations for Future Research	74
	REFERENCES	75
	Appendices A	78

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	Landfill leachate is polluting the groundwater	2
2.1	Advection diffusion equations	5
2.2	Mass balance model utilizing control volume concept	5
2.3	Accumulation within control volume	6
2.4	Concentration is being transported in x direction	7
2.5	Aquifer	14
2.6	Parameters that being used in Darcy's Law	16
4.3.1	Distribution of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.11.77) in the presence of the source ($t < t_0$), represented by four solid curves for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$ and compare with the another retardation factor (dashed curve) and another unsteady parameter (dotted curve) at one time $t = 1.5$ (day).	61
4.3.2	Solute concentration at $t = 1.5, 2.5, 3.5$ and 4.5 (day) when pollution source enter the porous domain.	62
4.3.3	Solute concentration at $t = 1.5$ (day) with higher R_d and higher m when pollution source enter the porous domain.	62
4.3.4	Distribution of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.11.78) in the absence of the source ($t > t_0$), represented by four solid curves for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$ and compare with the another retardation factor (dashed curve) and another unsteady parameter (dotted curve)	

	at one time $t = 5.5$ (day).	63
4.3.5	Solute concentration at $t = 5.5, 6.5, 7.5$ and 8.5 (day) when pollution source stop entering the porous domain.	64
4.3.6	Solute concentration at $t = 5.5$ (day) with higher R_d and higher m when pollution source stop entering the porous domain.	64
4.3.7	Seasonal variation of nickel during monsoon and post monsoon	65
4.3.8	Seasonal variation of lead during monsoon and post monsoon	66
4.4.1	Comparison of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.11.77) in the presence of the source ($t < t_0$), represented by solid curve for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, dashed curve for $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and dotted curve for $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at one time $t(\text{day}) = 2.5$ and 3.5	67
4.4.2	Comparison of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.10.78) in the absence of the source ($t > t_0$), represented by solid curve for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, dashed curve for $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and dotted curve for $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at one time $t(\text{day}) = 5.5$ and 6.5	68
4.5.1	Comparison of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.11.77) in the presence of the source ($t < t_0$), represented by the solid curve for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, dashed curve for $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and dotted curve for $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at particular position $x(\text{meter}) = 5.0$.	69
4.5.2	Comparison between $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at $x = 5(\text{meter})$ when the pollution source enter the porous domain.	70
4.5.3	Comparison of the solute concentration for solution Equation (3.11.78) in the presence of the source ($t > t_0$), represented by the solid curve for $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, dashed curve for $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and dotted curve for $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at particular position $x(\text{meter}) = 5.0$.	71

- 4.5.4 Comparison between $f(mt)=exp(mt)$, $f(mt)=exp(-mt)$ and $f(mt)=1-sin(mt)$ at $x = 5$ (meter) when the pollution source stop entering the porous domain.

LIST OF SYMBOLS/NOTATIONS

Roman Letters

C, F	-	Pollutant/ solute concentration
x	-	Distance in x direction
x'	-	New distance x
Δx	-	Difference of distance in x direction
t	-	Time
t'	-	New time t
t_0	-	Time at which concentration stop being released
q	-	Solute concentration flux
C_i	-	Initial concentration along the porous domain
C_0	-	Concentration at source during the release
X, T	-	New independent variable
f, f_1, f_2	-	Function of distance, x and time, t
m	-	Unsteady parameter or flow resistance
K_h	-	Hydraulic head
h_i	-	Initial head
h_f	-	Final head
Δh	-	Head loss
L	-	Length
Q	-	Discharge
A	-	Area
n	-	Porosity
K_1, K_2	-	Empirical constant
D	-	Longitudinal dispersion/ diffusion coefficient
u	-	Velocity
D_0	-	Constant

M, L, T	-	Unit of mass, length and time
R_d	-	Retardation factor
K	-	Function of distance, x and time, t
\bar{K}	-	K that has been transformed by Laplace transform
p	-	t , time that has been transformed by Laplace transform
T_0	-	Independent variable involving time, t_0
y_H	-	Homogeneous solution
y_B	-	Particular solution
a, b, c	-	Constants
F_1, F_2	-	Constants
∞	-	Infinity
$erfc$	-	Error function
exp	-	Exponent

Greek Letters

\mathcal{L}	-	Laplace transform
α, β	-	Arbitrary constant
μ	-	Zero order production
γ	-	First order decay rate
μ_0, u_0, γ_0	-	Constant
τ, ε, ξ	-	Dummy variables

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX	TITLE	PAGE
A	Inverse Laplace Transform of Complex Function	78

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

In late 19th centuries health officials from England and France have recognized the importance of soil and groundwater contamination and its effect to human health (Colten *et al.*, 1996). In the modern days, Love Canal tragedy in the City of Niagara, USA has become the main reference of soil and groundwater contamination. The long term exposure of contamination has revealed more than 248 types of chemicals in the Love Canal dump site, hence shows the critical problem of such contamination (Fletcher, 2002)

Groundwater and soil pollution in Malaysia for the past has not been identified as key environmental issue in Malaysia. This is true since not many cases of environmental and human health incidents have been reported. However with increasing demand for agricultural and drinking water use, groundwater and soil vulnerability has become an important environmental and human health issue.

Mohamed *et al.* (2009) stated that Langat Basin ecosystem is experiencing increasing pressure from urbanization and industrialization for the past three decades. The development process has resulted to increase the vulnerability of groundwater and soil quality. The increasing growth population and agricultural activity has increased the demand for good quality water.

One of the factors that contribute to groundwater pollution is leachate from landfill. Mohamed *et al.* (2009) studied on the leachate from Ampar Tenang landfill which is located very close to the Labu River, which is part of main tributaries of the Langat river basin. The study revealed that there is migration of leachate through the clay probably due to advection and diffusion transport mechanisms. Hence this illustrate that the leachate from landfill has been polluting the groundwater and soil as well as Labu River.

1.2 Problem Statement

It is found that leachate from Ampar Tenang landfill has been polluting groundwater, soil including Labu River through advection and diffusion transport mechanism (Mohamed *et al.*, 2009). On the other hand, Sirajudeen *et al.* (2012) were studying the effect of seasonal variation on the pollutant concentration in the groundwater. Therefore the early hypothesis is the pollutant concentration can be predicted at certain time and location using the advection diffusion/dispersion equation by considering the seasonal variation.

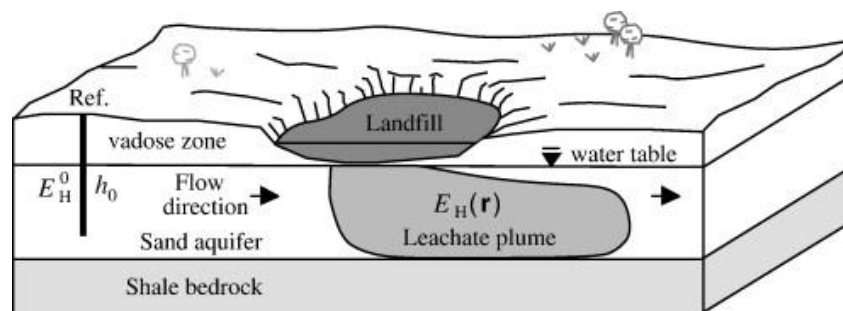


Figure 1.1 Landfill leachate is polluting the groundwater

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective is to obtain the analytical solution for the one dimensional solute transport using Laplace transformation technique. Another objective is to discuss the solute concentration distribution against time (seasonal variation).

1.4 Scope of the Study

In order to achieve the objective of the research, it is important to set clear scopes for this research. Firstly, the solute transport described by one dimensional advection dispersion equation and is in horizontal direction. Laplace transformation technique is used to get the analytical solutions. The medium is considered semi-infinite homogeneous in longitudinal direction.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The pollutant transport in porous domain which is governed by the advection dispersion can be used to predict the pollutant concentration in the aquifer or groundwater. Therefore, the amount of pollutant release at certain time can be regulated to ensure the groundwater quality is under the standard.

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